

26-1943

Argus

St. Louis, Mo.

REPEAL CHINESE BAN

Dropping its long-standing racial prejudice, the House Committee on Immigration has voted to remove the ban against Chinese immigration to this country and also to allow Chinese to become citizens of the United States.

The change of heart on the part of the national lawmakers toward the Chinese people is a striking example of the effect of the war on the thinking of the people. Five years ago, yes, less than five years ago, the people of America would hardly think of lifting the bar against Chinese immigration, but a mighty change is in the making in human affairs.

Unfortunately there are still those among our national leaders who profess to want to give China equality only in lip service, but in reality hold on to the idea that the Chinese are still a backward race and must be supervised and lorded over by the white race. China, through her great leader, T.V. Soong, has declared: "As Chinese citizens, we ask only that there shall be no discrimination against us." Therefore, the question now is whether America, who has nurtured and cultivated race prejudice based upon color, these many years, will be big or thoughtful enough to lay aside the superficial idea of white supremacy long enough to welcome Chinese as equals if only as a war measure.

While speaking of war measures, we are reminded here of the many war measures that have been issued by President Roosevelt as necessary to the prosecution of this global war and the saving of lives of the men in our armed forces, some of which have been in a large measure disregarded. But, we, in this case offer a war measure in behalf of the people at home which we are asking every red-blooded American to accept. We realize that the task may appear hard because it calls for deserting the beaten paths of the past and the striking out for the unconquered fields. Every man, woman and child is needed in this war against racial prejudices and in the fight for good will among men.

If through this or some other method, we can abolish discrimination based upon color in our own land, the good will of other darker races in all parts of the world will have already been won.

Lifting the embargo against Chinese immigration will not suffice, but the attitude of America toward her own minority group will be most convincing.

REPEAL CHINESE

EXCLUSION ACT

Christian Recorder

Philadelphia, Pa.

Once again we are calling upon the Congress to repeal the Chinese Exclusion Act which since 1882, has virtually set the Chinese apart and the least of our citizens.

The President is backing the abolition of this Act. He terms it "a historic mistake." To be sure, but more, it would be a moral blunder for a nation committed to democratic principles to enact such legislation, especially when the Negro has an affinity for the Chinese or any other oriental people everywhere. He does not want to see if our action harmonize with our dulcet promises. They are tacitly uttering 'by the fruit you bear we shall REALLY know you.'

Amsterdam News

New York, N. Y.

FDR Chinese Exclusion

Repeal Message Hailed

At the Chinese Exclusion Act, which give hope and encouragement to hundreds of millions of colored peoples throughout the world, Miss Thelma M. Dale, Administrative Secretary of the National Negro Congress said this week, in commenting upon the President's message urging that the House and Senate correct this "historic error."

Optimistic Expression

Optimism has been expressed in Congressional circles that action on the repeal bill will be taken before the end of October. The new legislation would allow a yearly quota of 105 Chinese to become American citizens, thus making them the only orientals eligible for American citizenship.